

choose to remember him and the delegation will have an hour of remembrance and testimony to Gus and his great accomplishments tomorrow.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. KELLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on H.R. 4154. This is going to help many worthy historically black colleges to rebuild and renovate after the tragedy of Hurricane Katrina, and it is worthy of support of colleagues on both sides of the aisle. I urge them to vote "yes" on this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4154.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HONORING ADRIANNE KARANUSIC

(Mr. KLEIN of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KLEIN of Florida. I rise today to honor Adrienne Karanusic, a registered nurse at Broward General Medical Center, for receiving the Florida Hospital Association's 2007 Hospital Hero of the Year Award.

A nurse of 18 years, Adrienne showed amazing compassion and dedication to a Croatian patient who spoke no English and fell critically ill from cancer while working on a cruise ship. Adrienne, who speaks Croatian, made herself available as an interpreter and would even call the patient's family in Croatia from her personal cell phone to keep them up to date.

But Adrienne's support and overwhelming compassion for her patient did not end there. Concerned with his mounting bills, she contacted Croatian churches in New York and California, ultimately raising over \$10,000 for his medical expenses. She even took a week off to accompany them back so she could explain his clinical ailments.

Adrienne's incredible kindness and dedication is the epitome of a "Hospital Hero," and I am proud to honor her today on the floor of the United States Congress.

CORPORAL STEVEN SHULZ, TEXAS MARINE

(Mr. POE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, Steven Shulz joined the United States Marine Corps after 9/11 and wanted, as he said, "to strengthen the United States military."

He did two tours of duty in Iraq, and in 2005 he was wounded by an IED in Fallujah. He had traumatic brain injury and was given up for dead.

Mr. Speaker, last rites were actually given for him. But Corporal Shulz refused to die, even though he has permanent brain injury, a weak left side, and is blind in one eye. No one ever expected Steven to even walk; but he continues to go through rehab, and his recovery is remarkable due to awesome medical personnel.

At a ceremony at the Baylor College of Medicine on Veterans Day, Corporal Shulz was presented with keys to a new home, especially designed and built for him, thanks to Houston area Rotary Clubs and benefactors in the Houston area.

It was a thrill for me and other Members of Congress to be present to see this young American hero. I was so impressed by his positive attitude and his love for America. He told me he would go back to Iraq and do it all over again if necessary.

Amazing men, these young guns of the United States Marine Corps.

And that's just the way it is.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 18, 2007, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. POE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

□ 2000

SECOND CHANCE ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the House on the passage of H.R. 1593, the Second Chance Act. I congratulate my colleague from Illinois, Mr. Danny Davis, who has worked so long and so hard on this legislation.

I am also proud to be a cosponsor of this legislation because so many of our citizens who have been led off course deserve a second chance.

While the Nation's crime rates have fallen over the last decade, there has been an unprecedented explosion in prison and jail populations, of which 650,000 men and women are released from State and Federal prisons each year, and an even larger number of people are being released from our local jails.

These individuals are arriving on the doorsteps of my neighborhood in Balti-

more and in neighborhoods across this great country. Unfortunately, we are failing to integrate far too many of these returning neighbors into the economic and social life of our communities. And, as a result, they are returning to crime and, before long, returning to prison.

Nearly two-thirds of released prisoners are expected to be rearrested for felony or serious misdemeanor within 3 years of release. Such high recidivism rates translate into thousands of new crimes each year, at least half of which can be averted through improved prisoner reentry efforts.

For me, these statistics are not nameless and faceless people. They are very real. I live in the inner city of Baltimore, where approximately 700 to 800 former prisoners are reentering our neighborhoods from prison every month.

A lot of good work is being done in the City of Baltimore to move these individuals on the path to productive citizenship; however, we can do much more and we can do better.

The Second Chance Act will do just that by addressing critical breakdowns in the services provided. The legislation will strengthen overall efforts to reduce recidivism, increase public safety, and help States and cities to better address the growing population of ex-offenders returning to our communities.

The bill focuses on development and support of programs that provide alternatives to incarceration, expand the availability of substance abuse treatment, strengthen families, and expand comprehensive reentry services.

We must end the vicious cycle of recidivism for the benefit of our communities and, indeed, our country. This is an issue that touches many of the problems that our society faces every day. Take, for example, the scourge of illicit drugs; 70 to 80 percent of offenders reentering the community have histories of substance abuse. And if the treatment they need is not sought or available upon release, relapse is likely.

Prison reentry programs are on the front lines of our national war on drugs, and they are desperately needed in communities like Baltimore City where this war has become increasingly violent. Ex-offenders need help to make a smooth transition into civilian life. Once they make that transition, they have the potential to serve as critical resources to our communities, acting as mentors to our young people and working to unravel the same criminal network to which they once belonged.

Reentry programs produce successful outcomes for our communities and our citizens, but they are also cost effective. Taxpayer dollars that could go to providing education, health care, or other vitally important services are instead going to support the costly criminal justice system. According to